

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 09039 260959Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 EUR-12
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R 260913Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1510
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, TH
SUBJECT: REPORTED COMMUNIST PLAN TO ESTABLISH A REVOLUTIONARY
FRONT IN THAILAND

1. ASIAWEEK, HONG KONG-PUBLISHED AND GENERALLY LEFTIST
IN TONE, CARRIED ITEM IN APR 29 ISSUE WHICH REPORTS
ANNOUNCEMENT BY "REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CPT" OF AN
INTENTION TO SET UP A "REVOLUTIONARY FRONT". THE
ANNOUNCEMENT WAS REPORTEDLY MADE IN ENGLISH AND MAILED
IN VIENTIANE TO MAJOR FOREIGN NEWS ORGANIZATIONS IN
BANGKOK. IT PURPORTED TO BE A STATEMENT BY FORMER BANGKOK
JOURNALIST UDOM SISUWAN AT A "SECRET" CEREMONY COMMEMOR-
ATING THE DEATH OF SOCIALIST PARTY OF THAILAND SECRETARY
GENERAL BUNSANONG BUNYATAYAN IN BANGKOK IN FEBRUARY, 1976.

2. KEY PORTION OF THE STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO UDOM WAS
AS FOLLOWS: "WE CONSIDER THE TIME HAS COME FOR VARIOUS
GROUPS OF PEOPLE TO UNITE INTO A BROAD REVOLUTIONARY FRONT
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SO THAT OUR STRUGGLE WILL BE MORE POWERFUL AND WILL GAIN
VICTORY IN THE NEAR FUTURE...." STATEMENT IDENTIFIED UDOM
AS A "REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CPT."

3. UDOM SISUWAN WAS A REPORTER FOR A BIWEEKLY MAGAZINE,
SETHASAN (ECONOMIC NEWS) IN 1958. HE WAS ARRESTED ON A
CHARGE OF BEING A COMMUNIST (FREQUENTLY MADE DURING THE

PERIOD THAT THE LATE FIELD MARSHAL SARIT DOMINATED THE THAI GOVERNMENT, 1957-63), ALONG WITH SOME 50 OTHER JOURNALISTS, LABOR/BUSINESSMEN AND POLITICIANS. SOME PROMINENT POLITICIANS ARRESTED WITH UDOM INCLUDED: PRASOET SAPSUNTHON (TOP ECHELON LEADER OF THE CPT AND COMPANION IN EXILE IN THE PRC OF PRIDI PANOMYONG), THEP CHOTINUCHIT (SEVERAL TIMES MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FROM SISAKET PROVINCE; FOUNDER OF THE SOCIALIST FRONT PARTY,) KHLAEO NORAPATI (LEADER OF SOCIALIST FRONT PARTY AND FORMER MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FROM KHON KHAEN), SAN PHATTHANOTHAI (PROMINENT JOURNALIST WHO ALSO SHARED EXILE WITH PRIDI). UDOM WAS ACQUITTED OF THE CHARGE OF BEING A COMMUNIST IN 1959 AND DISAPPEARED FROM SIGHT SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

4. COMMENT: REFERENCES TO A UNITED REVOLUTIONARY FRONT HAVE APPEARED REGULARLY IN CPT PROPAGANDA, BUT THERE IS SO FAR NO FORMAL ORGANIZATION OF THAT KIND. LETTER TO JOURNALISTS IN BANGKOK MAY BE FIRST STEP TOWARDS SETTING UP FORMAL FRONT ORGANIZATION, WHICH WOULD PROVIDE CPT WITH A FOCUS FOR ITS ACTIVITY WHICH AT SAME TIME WOULD PERMIT IT TO STEP BACK FROM PUBLIC VIEW, WHILE CONTROLLING EVENTS BEHIND THE SCENE. UDOM WOULD SEEM TO BE PRECISELY THE KIND OF PERSON NEEDED FOR SUCH AN EFFORT-A WELL-KNOWN LEFTIST BUT WITH NO RECORD OF CLEARLY-DEFINED MEMBERSHIP IN THE CPT.

WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, ALLEGATIONS, COMMUNISTS, LIBERATION FRONTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770421/aaaaarbl.tel
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Review Media Identifier:
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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